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Attn: Examiner James M. Hewitt

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Message:

In re: Owen *et al.*

Appl No.: 10/827,159

Filed: April 19, 2004

For: MECHANICAL PIPE JOINT, GASKET, AND METHOD FOR RESTRAINING
PIPE SPIGOTS IN MECHANICAL PIPE JOINT BELL SOCKETS

Confirmation No.: 2705

Group Art Unit: 3679

Examiner: J. Hewitt

Document Attached: Response to Restriction Requirement (2 pages)

Deposit Account: N/A

Number of Pages: (including cover page)

3

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P. 002

Attorney's Docket No. 047752/268747

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:	Owen <i>et al.</i>	Confirmation No.:	2705
Appl No.:	10/827,159	Group Art Unit:	3679
Filed:	April 19, 2004	Examiner:	J. Hewitt
For:	MECHANICAL PIPE JOINT, GASKET, AND METHOD FOR RESTRAINING PIPE SPIGOTS IN MECHANICAL PIPE JOINT BELL SOCKETS		

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 13, 2005, in which the Examiner has required restriction between Group I (Claims 1-14 and 26-35) and Group II (Claims 15-25 and 36-44). Applicant hereby elects without traverse to prosecute the claims of Group I (Claims 1-14 and 26-35) and expressly reserves the right to file divisional applications or take such other appropriate measures deemed necessary to protect the inventions in the remaining claims.

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of this case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those, which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR §1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,


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Appl. No.: 10/827,159
Amendment dated January 11, 2006
Reply to Restriction Requirement of December 13, 2005

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below.

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Rebecca Kerney

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